

April 7, 2023

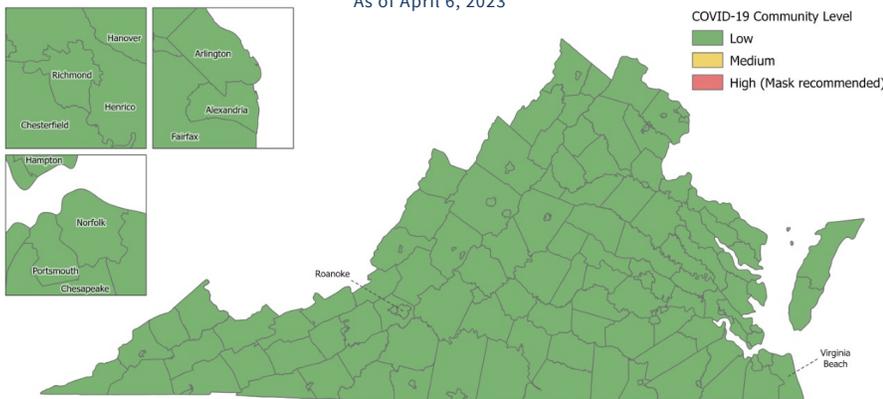
## Key Takeaways

- For the second time in three weeks, all Virginia localities are at low COVID-19 Community Levels according to the CDC. Last week, just four localities entered medium community levels, but quickly returned to low levels. Nationally, 96% of US counties are at low levels.
- Virginia remains at Low influenza intensity levels, however all five regions are at minimal levels.
- Title 42 is set to expire along with the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency on May 11. Cross-border migration is expected to increase as a result. At least three US cities have declared emergencies related to increased migration in the past few months.
- Marburg virus disease outbreaks continue in Africa, affecting Equatorial Guinea and Tanzania. A cause of a third outbreak in Burundi has yet to be determined.

## Key Figures

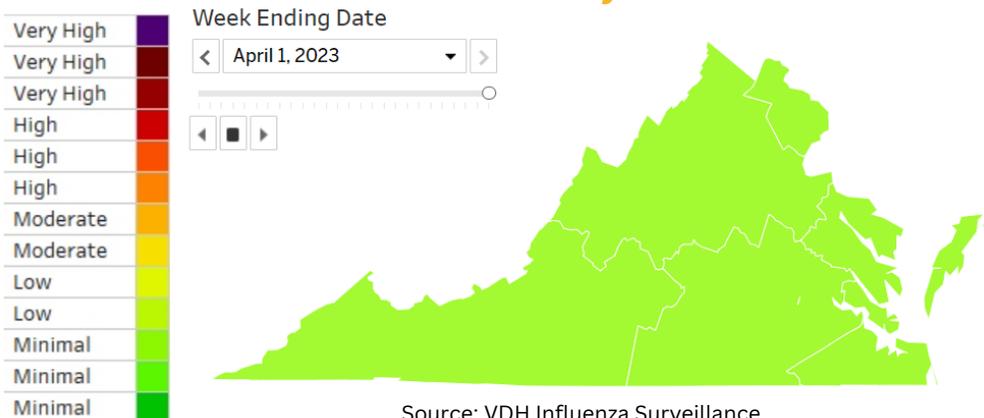
### CDC COVID-19 Community Levels

As of April 6, 2023



Source: [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)

### Influenza Intensity Levels



Source: [VDH Influenza Surveillance](#)

## COVID-19

**0 High / 0 Med**

*Virginia Localities at High/Medium COVID-19 Community Levels as of April 6, 2023*

**17%**

*Chance that Virginia will experience a COVID-19 case surge before July 2023. (Metaculus [forecast](#))*

## Influenza

**100%**

*of Virginia's 5 Regions are at Minimal ILI intensity Levels*

## Mpox

**23%**

*CDC estimate of the share of the at-risk population fully vaccinated against mpox.*

## Avian Flu

**386,000**

*Metaculus [forecast](#) of the number of Virginia poultry that will be "affected" (culled) in 2023 due to Avian flu*

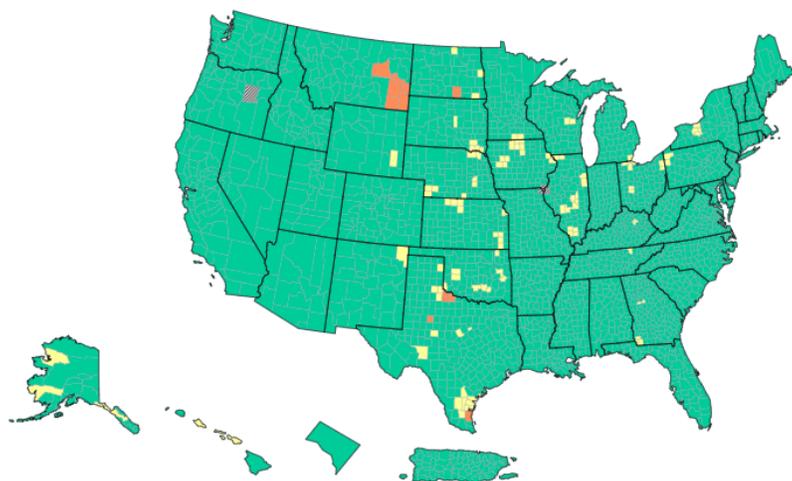
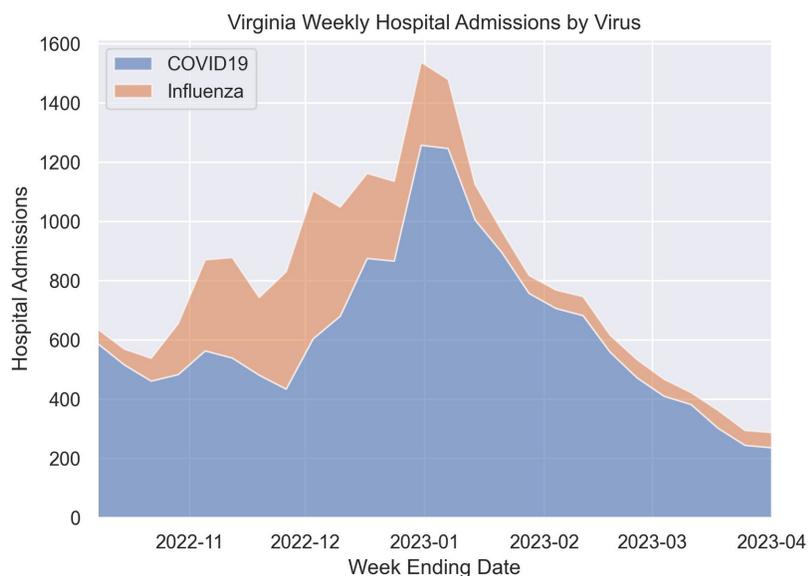
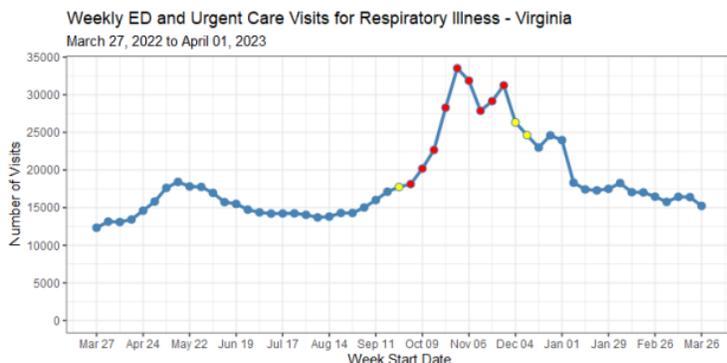
*[Spotlight: Title 42 Expiration](#)*

## Respiratory Illness

### Takeaways

- **COVID-19 community levels.** All Virginia counties are at low Community levels according to the [CDC](#). The CDC [recommends](#) normal precautions at this level, including keeping vaccinations up to date and staying home when sick.
- **Influenza continues to be low in Virginia.** Virginia is now [at](#) Low intensity levels. All five regions are at now Minimal intensity levels.
- **National Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) levels are still below baseline.** ILI levels are at baseline in [HHS Region 3](#), which includes Virginia. Eight out of ten HHS regions are below their regional baseline.
- **Second updated boosters [expected](#) to be available to the elderly and immuno-compromised soon.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is expected to authorize a second updated booster dose free of charge in the coming weeks ahead of a new updated vaccine expected to roll out later this year.
- **96% of US counties are at low COVID-19 Community Levels** according to the CDC. 113 (3.5%) are at medium levels, while just 13 are at high levels. Most of the medium and high level counties are in sparsely populated areas of the Midwest. This augers well as we head into late spring and summer, a period when the COVID-19 burden has been low historically.

### Respiratory Disease Activity



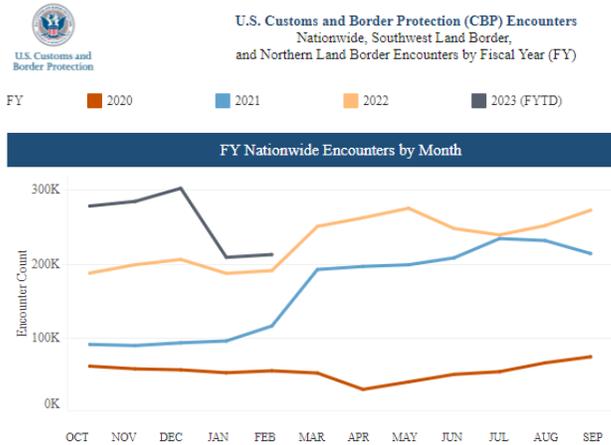
COVID-19 Community Levels in US by County

	Total	Percent	% Change
High	13	0.4%	- 0.37%
Medium	113	3.51%	- 5.18%
Low	3092	96.08%	5.56%

96% of US counties are at low COVID-19 Community Levels according to the CDC . Source: [CDC](#)

## Spotlight

## Title 42 Expiring

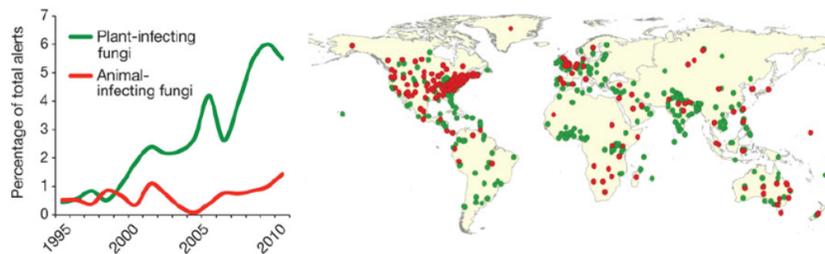


The number of border encounters began increasing shortly after Title 42 implementation, but jumped in February 2021 coinciding with rule changes in the US and Mexico. Image Source: CBP.

- **Title 42 is set to expire with the end of Public Health Emergency on May 11, 2023.** The CDC implemented Title 42 in March 2020 to address the COVID-19 pandemic by allowing border officials to quickly expel migrants without reviewing asylum claims. The White House is considering a number of measures to replace Title 42, but migration is expected to rise May 11.
- **US cities have struggled to manage the influx of migrants, with some declaring states of emergency.** Migration increased in early 2021 coinciding with rule changes in the US and Mexico. Cities as far flung as El Paso, Portland, Boston, San Diego, Chicago, Denver, and New York City have struggled to manage the influx. El Paso, Denver and New York City have made emergency declarations related to the influx.
- **Migrants suffer from a number of health issues related to their migration.** Migrants often undertake dangerous journeys, and those expelled to Mexico often live in squalid conditions along the southern border. Although information is sparse, anecdotal evidence suggests many migrants suffer from anxiety, depression, PTSD, and other effects of trauma, abuse, and detention.

## Other News of Note

- **CDC warns that just 23% of the vulnerable population is fully vaccinated against mpox.** The CDC urged targeted outreach and vaccine access efforts continue to prevent a resurgence.
- **First person to contract fungal infection from a plant found in India.** A plant mycologist was infected with the same fungus that causes silver leaf disease in plants. The 61-year-old made a full recovery after receiving two antifungal medications for two months. However, the infection has alarmed public health experts as it was not previously thought that fungal spores in plants could infect human beings.
- **CDC urges travelers to take precautions amid Marburg virus disease outbreaks in Tanzania and Equatorial Guinea.** Meanwhile, Equatorial Guinea's health ministry, on Mar 31 reported 1 more Marburg virus case, raising the outbreak total to 14.



The proportion of plant and animal disease alerts recorded by the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases attributable to fungi has risen in recent years. Diagram courtesy of Nature Publishing Group. Source: University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment, Ensia